

# Toronto Scene Report



Report By Stephen Perry

Photos By Sean Decroy, Alexandra M,  
and Nick Cushing

A while back I read a scene report titled "Defend Hamilton" which reminded me of all the things that have been happening with their neighbor to the north east (Toronto). Our scenes are intertwined. It has been a few years since a report from Hogtown has appeared in these pages and doing a radio show every week puts me in a unique role of keeping up with local bands. I want to start this scene report with a band that I left out by accident in the last one. That band is the NEW ENEMY who is made up of some socially-conscious and driven individuals. They have been around since 2008 and have released two EPs and a full length titled *Darkness, She Was The Universe*. They have remained independent and the releases are all pay what you can with proceeds going to charity. They are writing a new EP, playing this summer at shows and festivals around Ontario and Quebec and may tour Europe later this year. ([thenewenemy.bandcamp.com](http://thenewenemy.bandcamp.com) / [clintmclean@gmail.com](mailto:clintmclean@gmail.com))

The CLASS ASSASSINS is still together after ten years of playing a very catchy blend of street punk, Oil and rock. Members of DIRECT ACTION, PROBLEM CHILDREN and HOCKEY TEETH are in this band. Last year they released a 7" called *Treason* and they have a digital only release coming out on Rebel Time records in the spring. They may also tour Europe this fall. ([theclassassassins.bandcamp.com](http://theclassassassins.bandcamp.com) or [theclassassassins.wordpress.com](http://theclassassassins.wordpress.com))

SINKIN' SHIPS shares a drummer and a guitar player with the CLASS ASSASSINS. They play fast punk'n'roll and worship LEATHERFACE, but Naomi's vocals sound similar to that of the KUNACHICKS. They just released their third LP "Late For Everything" ([sinkinships.bandcamp.com](http://sinkinships.bandcamp.com))

Cactus Vella is the guitar player from CLASS ASSASSINS and SINKIN' SHIPS. He recently released a solo acoustic CD called *Sailin' On* and will be hitting the road and touring Eastern Canada this summer ([cactusvellamusic.bandcamp.com](http://cactusvellamusic.bandcamp.com)). Cactus also recently formed the WHISKEY HEARTS COLLECTIVE, a group of punk rock musicians playing all acoustic instruments. WHISKEY HEARTS recently recorded two songs for an upcoming 7" for Stereo Dynamite records this summer.

The FALLOUT has been at it since 1997. They took a break and have re-started playing with Patty O'Lantern from BRUTAL YOUTH and CLASS WAR KIDS on bass. Their music is fast



## COLUMN OF HEAVEN

and melodic and their lyrics are on the socially conscious side of things, which is how I grew up listening to punk rock. Their last CD *Dismantlement* came out on Insurgence records and had a tribute to our radio show on the CD - *Radio Fallout* ([www.thefallout.ca](http://www.thefallout.ca) / [bandcamp.com/tag/the-fallout](http://bandcamp.com/tag/the-fallout) / [www.facebook.com/pages/The-Fallout-Canada/194621600662807](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Fallout-Canada/194621600662807))

BRUTAL YOUTH migrated here a few years ago from Newfoundland. The "Rock" is an isolated place and reminds one of Alcatraz. They have an incredible scene in St. John's and it explains the ball of energy that is this band. They are raw and frantic in a melodic way that sounds like hardcore and not pop punk. They have a bunch of releases that you can hear at [brutalyouth.bandcamp.com](http://brutalyouth.bandcamp.com), which includes some great covers. They have a new album coming out called "Stay Honest." The vinyl is to be released by My Fingers! My Brain! and Get Party records. You can reach them at [brutalyouth709@gmail.com](mailto:brutalyouth709@gmail.com).

The SKETCH is also from Newfoundland and formed back in 2006. They moved here a few years ago and recorded a demo in a retired funeral home which is noteworthy ([www.thesketch1.bandcamp.com](http://www.thesketch1.bandcamp.com)). You can reach them at [thesketch709@hotmail.com](mailto:thesketch709@hotmail.com) or find them at [www.reverbnation.com/thesketch709](http://www.reverbnation.com/thesketch709).

ARMED AND HAMMERED (AAH) is back together with Preston from MURDERSQUAD T.O. joining them on bass and Jamie from the G-MEN on guitar. They describe themselves as "louder than MOTORHEAD, faster than the RAMONES, and uglier than the BARENAKED LADIES." The band is just playing shows at the moment, but they plan on getting back to writing. ([www.armedandhammered.ca](http://www.armedandhammered.ca) or [facebook.com/armedandhammeredtoronto](http://facebook.com/armedandhammeredtoronto) or [aah464@gmail.com](mailto:aah464@gmail.com))

Big John and Kyle of AAH are in a new band called VOLUME KNOBS. The band is going after the POISON IDEA sound and even plan on doing a tribute show. They feature Doug from JAWW, T. Axegod from DRUNKEN ANGER and Larry from HOCKEY TEETH. ([www.thevolumeknobs.com](http://www.thevolumeknobs.com))

IDNS (I Don't Need Society) is a politically charged crust/hardcore punk four piece from Toronto with a love for DISRUPT. The band is made up of Matt from ENDPROGRAM, Sean formerly of BACTERIAL CULTURE and Alex and Paul from the SOFISTIFUCKS. The band has a tape out called *Indoctrinations*. They have toured out East and are working on their next release *Industrial Death Noise Solution* which can be heard at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZOxMV7kvKk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZOxMV7kvKk). ([idnscrust.blogspot.com](http://idnscrust.blogspot.com) / [idsn@hotmail.com](mailto:idsn@hotmail.com))

RAH has a new full length out called *Lead Me to Believe* on Climbin' Aboard records which can be downloaded at [climbinaboard.bandcamp.com/album/rah-lead-me-to-believe-12-ca013](http://climbinaboard.bandcamp.com/album/rah-lead-me-to-believe-12-ca013). One of the members is teaching in Asia at the moment, but he is back this summer when the band plans on doing a proper release show for this full length.

VIOLENT FUTURE is a new group featuring the core of BAD CHOICE (Beav from URBAN BLIGHT (R.I.P.) on guitar, Steve Musgrave also on guitar and Rick Smith on bass). This is the first of two bands that Greg Benedetto has started and he even agreed to play drums. They recorded a demo last year that Painkiller records has made available as a EP. Slasher records (slasher.



## S.H.I.T.

ca/store) will be releasing an EP of four new songs. VIOLENT FUTURE just played Not Dead Yet and will be playing New York's Alright and Chaos in Tejas soon. ([www.violentfuture.bandcamp.com](http://www.violentfuture.bandcamp.com))

S.H.I.T., Greg's other band, also started on a dare. He dared his friends to join him in a band. He gets to play guitar in this one with Warren from MOLESTED YOUTH/URBAN BLIGHT playing lead. Brandon from PURITY CONTROL is on bass, Jose from OWL EYES / EATING GLASS is on drums and Ryan sings. They have a

demo out that floors me with a TERVEET KADET meets G.I.S.M. meets URBAN WASTE meets KILLING JOKE sound. The demo is available at [www.whatwedoisdiscrete.bandcamp.com](http://www.whatwedoisdiscrete.bandcamp.com).

HASSLER is a new group of veterans who have been in too many bands to count and to list them would steer you in the wrong direction as to how they sound. Just imagine the DOUBLE NEGATIVE writing method applied to the grinding noise merchants of mid-'80s hardcore in bands like later period RIPCORDER. The songs sound full, complete and detailed channeling the intensity of Sweden's HERATYS (RIP). They already have an EP out on *Schizophrenic* and a new EP called *Amorality* on Beach Impediment records. They are writing at a furious pace and you can keep up with them at [www.hasslertoronto.bandcamp.com](http://www.hasslertoronto.bandcamp.com).

PURITY CONTROL are a new power violence inspired band featuring Payson from CAPITAL DEATH on vocals and Brandon, who moonlights in S.H.I.T., on bass. The band (puritycontrolhc.bandcamp.com) has self-released an EP called *Adjusting*. High Anxiety (highanxiety416.blogspot.ca) has put out a six-song EP called *Coping*, which Chris describes as "low-fi grind for creeps." Someone from ORCHID worked this recording on, which is also noteworthy. Live they have become notorious for nearly unprecedented raw intensity.

Matt Carroll from the ENDLESS BLOCKADE has teamed up with his old band-mate from CAPITAL DEATH, Payson, to start FARANG. They recruited Ivan from the SCHOOL JERKS to play drums. And Leah sings. The idea of the band has been to have a good time and try to make some bizarre, mean tunes channeling a wide variety of punk, hardcore and noise through a distorted and fuzzy bass sound set to loose drum structures, a discordant guitar and clear female shouted vocals. They have released one cassette and have some pending recordings. The band can be reached through Ivan at [ivanrobertsdavis@yahoo.ca](mailto:ivanrobertsdavis@yahoo.ca).

FARANG is not the only band that Ivan plays in. The Burgess brothers have convinced him to play drums in their new band KREMLIN. The threesome is inspired by early Finnish and Japanese thrash. It is noisy and raw sounding in a way that pays homage to these scenes. They released two demos last year one of which can still be found on their bandcamp page ([www.kremlinpunk.bandcamp.com](http://www.kremlinpunk.bandcamp.com)). The *Unscrewed* demo can be heard at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=97jLdsdeh7M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=97jLdsdeh7M). Hardware records ([www.hardware-records.com](http://www.hardware-records.com)) out of Germany released a single called *Who Will Feed Me?* They toured in December and while on tour recorded eight new songs for a 12" that is coming out on Hardware in Europe and the School Jerks label Bad Vibrations and Beach Impediment over here. You can reach KREMLIN at [kremlinpunk@gmail.com](mailto:kremlinpunk@gmail.com). The guitarist, Zack, has a one-man band project that he did called HARHAA. He recorded a demo

that you can download for it at [soundcloud.com/#nuclearwyrm/harhaa-demo-2](http://soundcloud.com/#nuclearwyrm/harhaa-demo-2).

Finally, the SCHOOL JERKS has released a full length. It is more early BLACK FLAG worship from these guys. Grave Mistake has co-released the record with Bad Vibrations, which is the SCHOOL JERKS' label and will also be releasing a BAD SKIN single. Bad Vibrations has also released a NAUGHTY GIRLS single. The singer, Luke, has started doing shows at his new



## SPEARHEAD

place referred to as the Grunge Pit and in the summer he will get back to the Bridge Over Trouble Water events, which are these late night ravine parties that punk bands play using generators. (schooljerksadventurepunks.blogspot.ca)

DEAD MOUTH has been around for three years and are a nihilistic, negative hardcore band that take influences from GEHENNA, NEGATIVE APPROACH, SLAPSHOT and SHEER TERROR. The band features members of TEETHMARKS, OUT OF HAND and BLACK FAXES. At the time of this writing the band was recording a full length to be called *Hardcore For Death*. They also have a split 7" planned with HARANGUE. You should be able to track their recordings at [deadmouth667.bandcamp.com](http://deadmouth667.bandcamp.com).

HARANGUE plays metallic inspired hardcore and are doing a HATEBREED cover set coming up. The singer used to be in a band called WITH CONVICTIONS and they were from Orangeville. The drummer has been in a couple of bands as well. They have a new demo out called *Battle not with monsters*, which you can download at [harangue.bandcamp.com](http://harangue.bandcamp.com). They also have an earlier release. [haranguecult@gmail.com](mailto:haranguecult@gmail.com) / [facebook.com/haranguecult](https://www.facebook.com/haranguecult).

TOTAL TRASH has been around for two years and credit BAD CHOICE as being a major influence right down to blatantly stealing intros and riffs. They love the early Boston straight edge sound and combine it with more traditional punk sounds. They have a split 7" with a melodic pop punk powerhouse from Kitchener called MIGHTY ATOM on A Mountain Far and Buzz records. Deranged followed suit releasing a four-song single titled *Josef*, which got trashed in this very publication. TOTAL TRASH soldier on with a new recording and a possible summer tour. The band has a blog ([noyorknoyork.blogspot.com](http://noyorknoyork.blogspot.com)) and the best way to reach them is through the singer Alican at [alicanaratkoc@gmail.com](mailto:alicanaratkoc@gmail.com).

Moving from songwriting and guitar Andy also keeps busy with a black metal project. Eric from COLUMN OF HEAVEN / URINE CUP also plays in the band and they are called ILMESTYS. They

have a demo recorded and are currently working on new material, but this band is primarily a studio project despite all the hype they get on Youth Attack message boards. To find out more contact Andy at [andy.stammerseggmail.com](mailto:andy.stammerseggmail.com).

Andy has also teamed up with Conor from SNAKEPIT, Matt from FOXMOULDER and Vuk to form SPEARHEAD. They are influenced by early New York hardcore as well as powerviolence and some furious hardcore à la Japanese and Italian style. The band has a demo available at [spearhead.bandcamp.com](http://spearhead.bandcamp.com) and they should have their second demo any day now. They also plan for a summer tour with TOTAL TRASH.

Conor from SPEARHEAD has also teamed up with Campbell and Matt from DIRECT APPROACH to form a band called the WASTOIDS. Their sound combines the FREEZE with the CLITBOYS and some Oi! They have a demo and two EPs recorded to date. The demo is a four-song recording from last January some of which is up at [www.wastoids.bandcamp.com](http://www.wastoids.bandcamp.com). The cover has a rat shitting in the mouth of a fat white guy. That's our mayor and he comes from Etobicoke where these guys are from. The hate-on for this pig spans the city. The first EP came out in the summer and was referred to as "Three more songs about living in the suburbs" and used an old picture of Westwood Mall for the cover. Heritage vintage for all Etobicoke dwellers. The new EP just came out and is called *Wastoids is for the Children* and features a cover of CCR's *Fortunate Son*. To get in touch with the band you can write the singer Julian at [jmaxymiw@me.com](mailto:jmaxymiw@me.com). They play infrequently as everyone is in other bands and the vocalist is going to school in Montreal.

DIRECT APPROACH are somewhat new and also from Etobicoke. Inspired by early New York hardcore and POISON IDEA, they write short and furious songs and recently played Not Dead Yet. Their singer is also away in Montreal at school, but they have worked on some new material. The band has three

recordings as well. Their first demo was three songs and came out in the fall of 2010. The second demo had four songs on it and came out in the summer of 2011. The band also recorded a session on our radio show and all three recordings are available on their bandcamp page at [www.directapproach.bandcamp.com](http://www.directapproach.bandcamp.com).

The drummer's younger brother Ryan sings in a band called **WRONG GENERATION**. They are the next generation of kids coming up. The band recorded a session at the radio station and you can find that up at [www.wronggeneration.bandcamp.com](http://www.wronggeneration.bandcamp.com). They also have a Facebook page.

In **DIRECT APPROACH**'s downtime, guitarist Spencer has started another band called **BURIAL PERMIT**. They will be recording in the spring and should have a demo out soon. In the meantime they have started playing shows. You can get in touch with them through Spencer at [spencerrapson@hotmail.com](mailto:spencerrapson@hotmail.com) or check out [burialpermit.bandcamp.com](http://burialpermit.bandcamp.com). Spencer also makes visual art for show flyers and band shirts.

Andrew Nolan and Eric King from the **ENDLESS BLOCKADE (RIP)** and **SLAUGHTER STRIKE (RIP)** play in **COLUMN OF HEAVEN**. Dave Kristiansen from **RAMMER**, **ABYSS**, and **SLAUGHTER STRIKE** is on vocals and Mike Simpson of **GODSTOPPER** plays guitar. The band comes from a power violence background and have a split 7" with **RADIOACTIVE VOMIT** from Vancouver and an EP called *Holy Things for the Holy* on Iron Lung records due out in the spring. Their full length, titled *Mission from God*, is available from **SPHC**. ([www.survivalistdeathcult.bandcamp.com](http://www.survivalistdeathcult.bandcamp.com) or [columnofheaven.tumblr.com](http://columnofheaven.tumblr.com))

**ABYSS** has been around for the last two years. Dave sings in this band as well and they have recorded two cassettes and are working on an album. The album will have a theme around the devolution of humankind. The band also features Rob formerly of **LEGION666**, Max currently of **PURITY CONTROL** and Ethan and Junior. Rob wanted to start a band with more grind, so they are influenced by **EXTREME NOISE TERROR**, **NAPALM DEATH** and then they also love bands like **POISON IDEA** and **NO SECURITY**. You can get their *Reins of Horror* recording at [abyss666.bandcamp.com](http://abyss666.bandcamp.com).

Deathcrust stalwarts and perpetual thorns in the side of the Toronto scene, **LEGION DCLXVI** (or 666 if you prefer), carry on into their fifteenth year with their cacophonous blend of crust and metal. Despite the fact that their most recent release on Schizophrenic records, *The Final Days*, signaled imminent demise, the band is currently working on eight new songs for their next release heralding the back to the basics "E.N.T. meets Bathory" approach that garnered a legion of disciples. **LEGION** and their "true Canadian misanthropic blackened hardcore" campaign of terror continues. ([www.facebook.com/LegionDCLXVI](http://www.facebook.com/LegionDCLXVI) /[christraper@hotmail.com](mailto:christraper@hotmail.com))

**GOFUCKYOURSELF** is a grind/crust band with **SORE THROAT** worship. They do a **SHITLICKERS** tribute set. They have a split



**IDSN**

3" CD with **SHITFACED** from Sweden, and a split CD-R with **DISLEKSICK** from London. They also have plans to do splits with **HYPEREMESIS**, **FACTION DISASTER**, **GORGONIZED DORKS**, **CAPTAIN 3 LEG (!!!)**, **TU SUFRES**. They plan on being as prolific as **AGOTHOCLES**. You can hear them at [gofuckyourself.bandcamp.com](http://gofuckyourself.bandcamp.com) and you can contact them through Screwface at [grindcruster@gmail.com](mailto:grindcruster@gmail.com) or [facebook.com/grindcruster](http://facebook.com/grindcruster).

**RISING CRUST** are a metal, hardcore, doom band who have been around for close to a year now. They have recorded six songs to be pressed as a split with **RILE** from Salt Lake City. The guys from **Hypaethral records**, who are also in **TITAN**, are helping with it. The recording was done at Boxcar studios in Hamilton, which is the same place where the **CURSED** recorded. You can reach **RISING CRUST** through Sean at [forbesdonald@gmail.com](mailto:forbesdonald@gmail.com).

**TITAN** have been around for a few years now and have been compared to **BURIED INSIDE**, **UNION OF URANUS**, **ACME** and other bands that are emotive and heavy. The band toured Europe last summer and has just released a full length called *Burn* that you can download at [hypaethralrecords.bandcamp.com/album/burn](http://hypaethralrecords.bandcamp.com/album/burn). This will be released as a double LP on the band's label **Hypaethral records**. You can find out more about the band at [titanslays.com](http://titanslays.com) or if you want to find out about releases on the label you can write the band at [titanslays@gmail.com](mailto:titanslays@gmail.com).

**HAMMERHANDS**, from Streetsville, plays a post metal stoner rock similar in sound to **NEUROSIS**, **MELVINS**, **ISIS** and the **SWANS**. The band is made up of former members of **DANCE ELECTRIC** and **THE LOVE AND TERROR CULT**. The band is releasing a full length called *Glaciers* and hopes to do a small tour with **GODSTOPPER**. You can find out more about the band at [hammerhandstheband.com](http://hammerhandstheband.com) or [hammerhandstheband.bandcamp.com](http://hammerhandstheband.bandcamp.com) and you can get in touch with them at [info@hammerhandstheband.com](mailto:info@hammerhandstheband.com).

**GODSTOPPER** is a noise/sludge band with a sizable alternative rock influence. The band features Mike on drums and vocals, Phil and Tobin on guitar and Miranda on bass. This is the same Mike from **COLUMN OF HEAVEN** and **Super Heavy Sounds**. The band



is touring the US in support of the *What Matters* LP, which you can find on [godstopper.bandcamp.com](http://godstopper.bandcamp.com). For other tidbits check [godstopper.tumblr.com](http://godstopper.tumblr.com) or write Mike at [superheavysounds@gmail.com](mailto:superheavysounds@gmail.com).

**ABSOLUT** go for a raw punk sound. These guys seriously sound like they listen to nothing other than Swedish hardcore bands like AVSKUM or DISKONTO. The band features Chris from SAIGON DISTRESS SIGNAL on vocals, Joel from RAMMER and LEFT FOR DEAD on guitar, Rich from ACTION on bass and Vassil from the CITY SWEETHEARTS on drums. They have a six-song demo at [absolutnoise.bandcamp.com](http://absolutnoise.bandcamp.com) and you can reach them at [insaneabsolutnoise@gmail.com](mailto:insaneabsolutnoise@gmail.com) and have recorded for an EP or 12" to come out on Electric Assault records out of Brooklyn.

**RAD HABITS** is a new band taking cues from the EXPLODING HEARTS and GREEN DAY. The band originally featured members of the CITY SWEETHEARTS, but currently contains former members of RACKSHOT, RIOT99 and a bunch more. They are loaded with talent and have records coming out on Mammoth Cave and Speedowax. ([radhabits.bandcamp.com](http://radhabits.bandcamp.com))

**ANTI-VIBES** is a new band with hardcore influences in the RUDIMENTARY PENI vein with some surf elements. They are hoping to record soon and have a facebook page at [www.facebook.com/antivibes](http://www.facebook.com/antivibes). They will make a bandcamp page once they have a recording together.

**LEFT FOR DEAD** played a reunion show in Baltimore with a couple of unannounced gigs in Toronto and Hamilton. Since then they have recorded some material that will get released as four separate singles as limited presses on a subscription style method. There are also plans to collect all those songs as an LP that will be released by A389 records, who are the folks that put on that reunion show in Baltimore. One of these songs will be released on a new Hamilton comp coming out on Schizophrenic.

**BURNING LOVE** are about to record a 7" with Josh Korody, who did the *Black Widow* 7". Then they head out on a series of tours, which include the arctic, maybe China, Japan and/or Southeast Asia. Then they will record the third LP for Southern Lord in the fall or winter.

**SCHOOL DAMAGE** is a melodic snout nosed four-piece that loves all the early Lookout records. They have been around for two years and played with bands as big as the VIBRATORS and the QUEERS. They recorded a demo back in 2011 which is available at [schooldamage.bandcamp.com/releases](http://schooldamage.bandcamp.com/releases). This past summer the band released a six-song EP which can be downloaded at [myfingersmybrainrecords.bandcamp.com/album/school-damage](http://myfingersmybrainrecords.bandcamp.com/album/school-damage). Not to rest on their laurels, they have started work on a full length to be titled *Get Weird* ([schooldamageband@gmail.com](mailto:schooldamageband@gmail.com)).

**UNBELIEVERS** have a new full length out titled *It's not Luck you Need*, which sounds like Josie Cotton fronting the QUEERS. This represents the band's forth release and it is catchy in the FABULOUS STAINS kind of way. The band is touring and you can get in touch with them at [unbelieversband.com](http://unbelieversband.com).

Ugly Pop has just released the last of the unreleased DREAM DATES material as a single with covers of "Surfer Joe" on the A-side and "Tallahassie Lassie" on the flip. The SUICIDE DATES have written some new songs and hope to record those soon. They have a website at [urotsukidojispad.com/dreamdates2.html](http://urotsukidojispad.com/dreamdates2.html).

**SLUTS ON 45** is a garage punk band featuring former members of MURDERSQUAD T.O., SPOTTY BOTTY and the PUNCHING NUNS among others. They a six-song EP called *Steeped in Semen* available at [slutson45.bandcamp.com](http://slutson45.bandcamp.com) or [www.reverbnation.com/slutson45](http://www.reverbnation.com/slutson45). They have recorded two more songs, which they hope to release. Both releases are on their own label Cheap Slut records ([cheap.slut.records@gmail.com](mailto:cheap.slut.records@gmail.com)). They also have a video for the song "I like you so lets party" up at [www.frequency.com/video/sluts-on-45-i-like-you-so-lets-party/60754804](http://www.frequency.com/video/sluts-on-45-i-like-you-so-lets-party/60754804).

You can contact the band at [slutson45@gmail.com](mailto:slutson45@gmail.com). ([www.facebook.com/sluts.on.45.dive.music](http://www.facebook.com/sluts.on.45.dive.music))

The legendary ARSON is back together. They have been playing for the past two years, but have confirmed a line up that features original members Rude, Marcel and Dave Quinton (who also played in the MODS / DEAD BOYS) and new member John Sutton of the WEAKERTHANS. Ugly Pop has re-released the (*Living with the*) *White Folks / Coho Coho* single, but flipped the order of the songs. Energized by this release and the solid response they've received over the last year's live shows, the band has written and recorded a new album and are currently mastering it at The Engine Room in New York. ([www.arson-rock.com](http://www.arson-rock.com), [www.facebook.com/arson.music](http://www.facebook.com/arson.music) or [www.reverbnation.com/arsonmusic](http://www.reverbnation.com/arsonmusic))

Marcel and John have another project going with drummer Cleave Anderson of TYRANNA / BATTERED WIVES called SID'S KIDS. The idea was to be a band that could invite singers and players from the original Toronto punk scene to perform and they have done some things with Mickey and Patsy of the CURSE, Zero from ZRO4, Chris Haight of ZOOM / VILETONES, Fergus of A PASSING FANCY, Barrie of the EXISTERS and many others. The band has a repertoire of over 100 songs and they play at least once a month.

Members of the EXISTERS have a new band called FREEDOM 85 that they describe as adult wave power. They are working on a CD titled *Mid Life Crisis Rock*. You can contact the band through Barrie at [barrieexister@rogers.com](mailto:barrieexister@rogers.com).

Don Pyle has been busy with reunion shows for KING COBB STEELIE and SHADOWY MEN FROM A SHADOWY PLANET. His book *Trouble in the Camera Club* has been out for a while on EWC Press. And Ugly Pop re-released the CRASH KILLS 5 single, *What do you do at night?* Don has been recording bands in his upstairs attic studio and some of the recent recordings to have come out are by the SADIES, LEGATO VIPERS and the SOUPCANS. At the time of print, Don was mixing BLACK HEEL MARKS album, which sounds like a band of musicians pulled together for this project. And he is working on new singles by the FILTHY GAZE OF EUROPE, which will include a song with Sally Timms of the MEKONS doing guest vocals. There is more for the lurkers at [www.donpyle.com](http://www.donpyle.com) or [www.troubleinthecameraclub.com](http://www.troubleinthecameraclub.com).

Sam Sutherland's book on the Canadian punk is out. The book is called *Perfect Youth* and it is the first historical text of its kind. The book connects a lot of dots with the movers and shakers of the era and is a welcome addition to the current literature, which includes *Smash the State* and *Treat Me Like Dirt*. ([perfectyouthbook.com/](http://perfectyouthbook.com/) author)

Colin Brunton has finished his new film *The Last Pogo Jumps Again*. This has been seven years in the making. The film is three and a half hours in length, and has just premiered at Canadian Music Week. Hopefully this will start making the rounds in the festival circuit. Colin has a website with information about the film and early Toronto punk scene at [www.thelastpogo.net](http://www.thelastpogo.net).

## Show Spaces

Toronto continues to lack a permanent all ages space. Despite that a couple of punk houses in the east end have started doing shows. The Polyhaus on Carlaw and the Grunge Pit on McPhee Place and a place on Sterling Avenue, which just did the HASSLER record release show. In the west end the Soy Bomb HQ does shows in their space using the half pipe as a stage. Parts and Labour in Parkdale does the occasional all ages shows, but it is



usually on a shitty day (Monday). The Hard Luck Bar has moved to Dundas Street. The Bovine Sex Club on Queen Street also does shows. Every Tuesday is a free punk show. The Horseshoe Tavern and Lee's Palace continue to book bigger bands unless you are RANCID in which case those go to concert venues. All of the clubs have listings in a weekly entertainment rag called *Now Magazine*. And a comprehensive on-line source is [justshows.com/toronto](http://justshows.com/toronto).

## Promoters

Greg Benedetto does most of the shows under *Stuck in the City*. He can be reached at [greg.benedetto@gmail.com](mailto:greg.benedetto@gmail.com).

## Radio

Over a year ago this city lost a campus/community radio station (CKLN 88.1 FM) and with it the longest running punk show in the city called *Aggressive Rock*.

I co-host a hardcore show on CIUT 89.5FM called *Equalizing-X-Distort*. The show has been on the air for fourteen years now and the other co-hosts include D'Arcy, Rob and Ivan. We have a blog at [equalizingxdistort.blogspot.ca](http://equalizingxdistort.blogspot.ca) and you can reach us at [equalizingxdistort@ciut.fm](mailto:equalizingxdistort@ciut.fm). Our show airs every Sunday night from 10:00 pm till midnight and you can hear the broadcast live at [www.ciut.fm](http://www.ciut.fm).

At two o'clock on Monday morning we air *Maximumrocknroll radio*. On Tuesday night at 5:00 pm there is *Moondog Ballroom* with Dhaibid James who was the main instigator behind getting *MRR* on the air ([www.facebook.com/dalbhd.james](http://www.facebook.com/dalbhd.james)).

A great little garage show called *Reel Time Radio* is on at 6:00 pm, featuring Rocky and Deena. ([www.realcooltimeradio.blogspot.com](http://www.realcooltimeradio.blogspot.com))

A two-hour powerviolence show called *Super Heavy Sounds* airs at midnight on Tuesday night and is hosted by Mike Simpson ([www.superheavysounds.com](http://www.superheavysounds.com)).

A two-hour punk show\* on Thursday's at Midnight is called *Rock n Roll Radio* is hosted by Casey. ([www.randrradio.blogspot.ca](http://www.randrradio.blogspot.ca))

And there are a few other shows. Needless to say punk is well represented throughout the station's programming schedule.

## Barrie / Orillia

There are surrounding areas that feed into the Toronto scene. Hamilton is one of them, but a "Defend Hamilton" scene report

appeared not too long ago and they did a great job so I will focus on bands up north in the Barrie / Orillia area.

There is a straight edge band called DEMOLITION who just recorded a single and are trying to figure out how to put it out. Their buddy Matt has a digital download label called Blank Stare and he has the band's demo available on his bandcamp site at [blankstarehardcore.bandcamp.com/album/demo-2012](http://blankstarehardcore.bandcamp.com/album/demo-2012).

Another buddy of DEMOLITION is Nate and he has started a band with some older dudes called ANCIENT HEADS. Jason de Young, formerly of the KILL DECIBEL and more formerly of URBAN BLIGHT plays drums. They have a great three-song demo available at [blankstarehardcore.bandcamp.com/album/demo-2012-vol-1](http://blankstarehardcore.bandcamp.com/album/demo-2012-vol-1). They also have a live split tape with

INTENT, but it is sold out. They are working on their next cassingle and are also hoping to play a few shows in the States, even though they have only played out once that I know of. Nate and Emmet from DEMOLITION contribute to a zine in the US called *Mosher's Delight*.

GENERATION HEXED has been around for a while. The band features former members of SONS OF ISHMAEL and FLECKS OF DROOL.

Glenn of BSL / PHALLOCRACY fame is in a new band called the GROGGIES who play short, fast and heavy in the vein of CIRCLE JERKS meets POISON IDEA. They have a ten-song CD and already have another two releases worth of stuff that they are working on. You can get in touch with the band at Facebook / email us at: [πηγερογγιεσ@gamma.χου](mailto:πηγερογγιεσ@gamma.χου) or write for a copy of the CD (\$7.00 ppd) to Glenn McGarvey - 75 Leslie Avenue / Barrie ON / L4N 9P3 / Canada.

The GROGGIES turned me onto an Oil inspired band called DRUNKEN KNIGHTS and their EP, which you can get at [oithedrunkenknights.bandcamp.com/album/one-drunken-night-e-p](http://oithedrunkenknights.bandcamp.com/album/one-drunken-night-e-p).

BEAVER SLAP is an all girl hardcore band from Barrie. They have released a four song EP called *The War Paint* on She Died Productions and have a band page up at [www.facebook.com/BeaverSlaps](http://www.facebook.com/BeaverSlaps).

GASWITCH has been a band for five years now playing dirty rotten old school offensive punk along the lines of the DAY GLO ABORTIONS. They put out a 29-song EP titled *The Greatest Punk Album the World will ever know*. They are working on new material but the EP is available at [gaswitch.bandcamp.com](http://gaswitch.bandcamp.com). You can reach them at [www.facebook.com/gaswitch](http://www.facebook.com/gaswitch).

That's about all I could scrounge up, but if you are in a hardcore band and want radio airplay drop me a line at [equalizingxdistort@ciut.fm](mailto:equalizingxdistort@ciut.fm).



THE NEW ENEMY